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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: BONNSTETTER, Bill J. et al.  
SERIAL NO: 09/760,145  
FILED: January 12, 2001  
TITLE: NETWORK BASED DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION METHOD

Art Unit: 2152  
Examiner: MOORTHY, Aravind K.  
Confirmation No: 2367  
Docket No: P04361US01

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO  
OVERCOME CITED PATENT FOR PUBLICATION (37 C.F.R. § 1.131)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Mail Stop AF  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

1. This Declaration is to establish completion of the invention in this application in the United States at a date prior to November 10, 1999, the earliest filing date of cited U.S. Patent No. 6,853,975 to inventors Dirksen et al., presented by the Examiner for the first time in the Final Rejection of January 12, 2006.

2. The persons making this Declaration are the named inventors of Serial No. 09/760,145.

3. The Assignment is recorded at Reel 011799, frame 0047 dated May 11, 2001.

4. To establish the date of invention of this application, the following attached documents are submitted as evidence:

Exhibit A: Document titled DBNotes.txt

Exhibit B: A screen print of the folder containing the file of Exhibit A, the date of which is blocked out, but which is earlier than November 10, 1999.

5. From these documents, all of which were created and in existence and made in the United States of America prior to November 10, 1999, it can be seen that the invention defined in this application was conceived prior to the November 10, 1999, filing date of Dirksen.

6. From the time of conception to a time just prior to the effective filing date of the reference, the inventors diligently worked towards filing of the application identified in the caption of this Declaration.

7. The present application relies on a provisional application filing date of January 14, 2000, which is only a few weeks after the earliest filing date of the reference, evidencing that the work on the invention was done much earlier. Our inventors records indicate we took this information on conception and reduction to practice to our patent attorney, Mark Hansing on October 15, 1999, which is also prior to Dirksen.

8. The document of Exhibit A is shown to prove conception of the present invention prior to November 10, 1999 by briefly mentioning elements a-f of claim 1 of the present application. Each element a-f of claim 1 is noted as a-f in the left margin on Exhibit

A, which elements have been added to the attached copy for purposes of this declaration.


Exhibit A is otherwise original.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on the information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that the willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Date: 4-12-06

  
Bill J. Bonustetter

Date: 4/12/06

  
David R. Bonustetter

Date: 4/12/06

  
Rodney Cox

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Here is a brief explanation of the database structure:

(See Prototype.mdb/tools/relationships)

#### User Accounts:

The Account, AcctOptions and AcctTag tables encapsulate the data for an administrative account. This includes all levels of users except the person who responds to an instrument.

The information in AcctOptions is broken off from Account just to make the record a little neater. Also, we probably will have others tables such as AcctReportOptions, and maybe others.

(a) The AccountID is the unique (internal) identifier for each user. LoginName and Password are what they actually type in to log in.

(b) The OwnerID and ParentID situate each user in the hierarchical tree.

#### Experiences (Links)

The Experience table encapsulates the information for each link setup. (We decided on 'experience' rather than 'link' to let link refer to actual web links. The ExperienceDNAInfo table is just extra information that we will need for a DNA type of experience. We may need other such tables for other types of experiences.

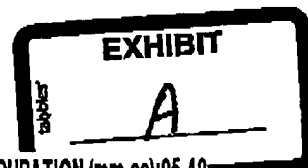
(c) The ExperienceID is the unique number for each experience. The AccountID links the experience to the user account.

The ExpRptView table links each experience with one or more report views to be linked to by the experience.

The ExperienceDNAInfo contains auxiliary information pertinent to the DNA process.

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We might end up with other supplementary information linked to the Experience information.

### Reports and Report Views

The ReportView table is static information and each record defines a single report 'view'. We decided on this term to indicate the actual printed form of a report. Thus, the Style Analysis instrument can produce several 'report views', while Style Analysis results would be considered the 'report'.

The ReportViewDef is a memo field that contains the 'script' for the report. In our first go, it will be Dave's current data for each report. That's why a report view must be defined for each language, since they are actually different reports. The ReportViewVer number indicates the version of scripting so that if we come up with a better way to define the report, we can mix old and new ways.

- (d) The Report and Responses table contain the results of each respondent's responses for each link in the experience. The reason we separated into two tables is to handle
- (e) the case of 360 type reports, where the 'report' is actually the summary of several responses. In fact, we conceived EVERY report as being a 360 type report with most cases having only one response (the Self.)

The RaterCategory table contains descriptions of the types of raters for 360 type reports

The Respondent table provides information, on a user account level of those who have/will be the subjects of experiences. They may be anonymous or pre-defined (or post-defined!)

- (f) The ReportsPrinted table creates a record for each printing of a report view. These may or may not be charged, based on policies.

### Instrument Collection / Instrument

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The InstrumentCollection table is a container for what we usually call an instrument. This is because some report 'instruments' are actually a combination of individual instruments, some of which are mandatory or optional. So this table contains this definition and information, using our XML scripting method.

The Instrument table defines a single instrument (or even section of an instrument) for use by the InstrumentCollection. The 'script' in InstrumentDef drives the engine that presents the survey to the respondent.

